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for each pixel of the image block under examination, estimating local features for said pixel by providing information on content of an image area that includes said pixel and adjacent pixels; and

modifying the pixels of the image block under examination according to both said global features of the image block and said local features the pixels of the image block.

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Claim 22 is being amended. Claims 1-21 were allowed.

Claims 22-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to set forth the subject matter of the invention. Claim 22 is being amended as suggested by the Examiner.

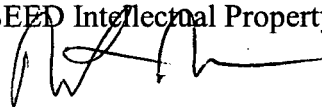
Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made.**"

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Massimo Mancuso et al.

SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC



Robert Iannucci

Registration No. 33,514

RXI:asl

Enclosures:

Postcard

Form PTO/SB/21

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 6300
Seattle, Washington 98104-7092
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031